



**CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE
COST ESTIMATE**

July 2, 2001

H.R. 434

Emigrant Wilderness Preservation Act of 2001

As ordered reported by the House Committee on Resources on June 27, 2001

CBO estimates that enacting H.R. 434 would have no significant impact on the federal budget. Enacting the bill would not affect direct spending or receipts; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures would not apply. H.R. 434 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act. State and local governments might incur some costs as a result of the bill's enactment, but these costs would be voluntary.

H.R. 434 would provide for the maintenance and operation of 18 concrete dams and weirs in the Emigrant Wilderness within the Stanislaus National Forest in California. According to the Forest Service, in November 2000 the agency and the California Department of Fish and Game agreed to a joint strategy for future management of the dams, emphasizing the need to maintain eight of the structures. H.R. 434 would direct the Secretary of Agriculture to enter into a cooperative agreement with a nonfederal entity to retain, maintain, and operate at private expense 12 of the 18 dams. Under the bill, the Secretary could expand the agreement to include the remaining six structures.

H.R. 434 would authorize the appropriation of \$20,000 to cover the costs of environmental reviews. Based on information from the Forest Service, CBO estimates that the total cost to conduct such environmental analyses could exceed the authorized amount. Nevertheless, we estimate that implementing the bill would cost less than \$50,000 over the 2002-2006 period, assuming appropriation of the necessary amounts.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Megan Carroll. This estimate was approved by Peter H. Fontaine, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.